

NOV 17 2006

Docket No. JIL03
US App. No. 10/656,011

REMARKS

Status of the Application

Claims 1-9 were previously pending. Claims 1-9 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maleyko et al. (US 4,776,585) in view of Risso et al. (US 6,409,636). Claims 1-9 were also objected to for informalities.

Applicant has amended claims 1-9 to more clearly define the invention, and added new claims 10-12. Applicant has also amended the specification to correct the grammatical errors. No new matter adds through the amendments. For the reasons discussed below, withdrawal of the rejections is requested.

Claim Objections

Claims 1-9 were objected to for informalities.

Applicant has amended claims 1-9 to cure the informalities.

Claim Rejections- 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Claims 1-9 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maleyko et al. (US 4,776,585) in view of Risso et al. (US 6,409,636).

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections for the reasons discussed below. Nevertheless, Applicant has amended claims 1-9 to more clearly define the invention.

1. (currently amended) An optical-controlled and voice-controlled optical fiber skipping-rope, including a voice-controlled constructional body, an optical-controlled constructional body, and a luminescence rope connected to the voice-controlled constructional body and the optical-controlled constructional body, respectively, wherein

the voice-controlled constructional body comprises an upper cover and a lower cover defining a first housing; in the first housing, a first integrated circuit board for music control, a first fixing sleeve head with a hollow space, a first illuminant and a first battery are provided; wherein the first illuminant is installed in the hollow space of the first fixing sleeve head and engages with a first end of the luminescence rope;

the optical-controlled constructional body comprises an upper cover and a lower cover defining a second housing, in the second housing, a second integrated circuit board for optical control, a second fixing sleeve head with a second hollow space, a second illuminant and a second battery are provided; wherein the second illuminant is installed in the second hollow

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space of the second fixing sleeve head and engages with a second end of the luminescence rope.

Maleyko fails to teach or suggest the above emphasized features of claim 1.

Maleyko teaches an electrically lighted jump rope including a pair of handles 14 and 16 rotatably mounted at opposite ends of a light transmitting tube 12.

However, Maleyko does not teach an integrated circuit board for optical control provided in the housing of the handle. Maleyko teaches a power supply circuit provided in the housing of the handle, which is not an integrated circuit board. "The power supply circuit comprises, in general, the batteries 26, a switch 76 and a pair of rotary electrical connectors 78 and 82." Col. 3, lines 64-67.

Maleyko also fails to teach a fixing sleeve head with a hollow space and an illuminant provided in the housing of the handle, wherein the illuminant is installed in the hollow space of the fixing sleeve head and engages with an end of the luminescence rope. As shown in Figs. 1 and 2 of Maleyko, no illuminant is provided in the housing of the handle. In fact, Maleyko specifically teaches that "[A] lighting circuit 24 extends into the tube 12 from the handle 16". Col. 2, lines 55-57. Maleyko further teaches that "[T]he lighting circuit 24 comprises a pair of conductors 66 and 68 extending into the tube 12 from the handle 16. A plurality of LEDs 72 are connected in parallel with each other across the conductors 66 and 68. Col. 3, lines 48-51. From the above teachings, it is clear that the light source of Maleyko is located in the tube 12, not in the handle 16. While in the present invention, the illuminant is located inside the housing of the handle.

The above differences are technically significant. For example, because the rope is subjected to much more intensive impact than the handle when in use, the light source placed inside the rope would be much easier to be damaged than the light source placed inside the handle. Also the integrated circuit board for optical control of the present invention can produce more lighting effects than the simple on/off power supply circuit of Maleyko.

Risso was cited to teach an electronic jump rope that generates beat tracks or sound segments. However, Risso clearly cannot cure the above discussed deficiencies of Maleyko. Risso is totally silent about the optical-control features as recited in claim 1.

For at least the reasons discussed above, claim 1 is patentable over Maleyko and Risso.

Claims 2-9 depend on claim 1 and, thus, are also patentable over Maleyko and Risso for at

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least the same reasons. In addition, these claims contain features that further distinguish over the cited references.

New Claims

New claims 10-12 have been added, which depend on claim 1 and, therefore, are patentable.

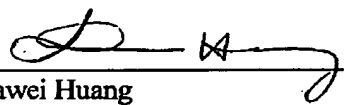
Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the pending claims 1-12 are now in condition for allowance. Allowance of this application is earnestly solicited.

Respectively submitted
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Date: 11/17/2006

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